HEAVY LOSSES BY BOTH SIDES AS GREAT ARMIES BATTLE

into action and to penetrate to the heart of eastern Prussia.

"One may regret that our offensive campaign has not attained its end by reason of difficulties of execution which it was impossible to foresee. That would have had the effect of shortening the war. Our defensive situation, however, remains solid in the presence of an enemy already enfeebled.

"Every Frenchman will deplore the momentary abandonment of positions in territory annexed by the Germans which we had occupied. Also certain portions of our national territory will suffer unhappily because they will be the theatre of operations. This is inevitable, but it is only a temporary trial.

"German cavalry belonging to an independent division operating at the extreme right penetrated into Roubaix and Tourzoing, which are defended only by the territorial troops.

"The courage of our valiant population will support that trial with indestructible faith in the final success, which is not doubtful.

"In telling to the country the entire truth the military authorities of the Government give the strongest proof of their absolute confidence in victory, which depends only on our perseverance and tenacity."

"The general engagement continues to-day with desperation" is the wording of an official communication given out in the after-

"Already both sides have suffered serious losses.

"Our armies have resolutely taken the offensive between the Moselle and Mons, in Belgium.

"A general battle is now being fought in Upper Alsace, in the Vosges Mountains and along the River Meurthe.

"The main body of the troops is under the command of

"These forces hold the front, roughly speaking, between Badonvillers and Luneville.

"Amance, Dieuloard and Luneville have been occupied by the Germans; otherwise the French front has not been modified.

"An army from the north of Wavre is approaching Neuf- Amance, Dieuloard and Luneville have BERLIN STILL chateau and is attacking the German forces which have defiled through Luxemburg and are now upon the right bank of the Semois.

"The movements of the Germans who sought to pass our ing Neufchateau and is attacking the left wing were followed step by step, and their right now finds German forces, which have defiled itself attacked by the left wing of our army, which is working in conjunction with the English.

"From this side the battle continued vigorously for more than twenty-four hours, the field extending over the rest of the

GREAT BATTLE ALONG ENTIRE LINE IS RAGING IN BELGIUM

PARIS, August 24. The French War Office issued the following communique to-day:

"The great battle between the greater France against the bulk of the German that end."

army continues to-day.

"The mission of the English and French is to hold virtually the entire lutely taken the offensive between the German army in Belgium, while our Russian allies push their success in the east. The Russians occup, territory fifty miles wide on the German fron-

lish army which set out from around

"A movement of Germans who their right consequently now finds it-

"The battle on this side has been going on in lively fashion for more than The motiective.

are engaged in desperate conflict, and already the losses are serious on both

"On our extreme left troops have been part of the forces of England and concentrated to parry any attempt on

"Already both sides have suffered serious losses. Our armies have reso-Mozelle and Mons, in Belgium."

THE GERMAN FRONT.

LONDON, August 24. "Our armies, facing their objective terdam give the probable dispositions of is inexact. There were a few individual Soldau." points, were all let go yesterday, taking the German troops in Belgium, based weaknesses of profoundly regrettable everywhere a resolute offensive against on what information has reached the Dutch city. The German right flank propriate punishment. They did not River and as far as Mons in a general is described as occupying the entire have the importance attributed to them. battle. They are now completely en- territory immediately south of Antwerp It would be unjust to balance the failgaged, and comment may be left to and is now moving southwest toward ings of a few against the value of all Lille. Another column is moving on the soldiers of a region where citizens, "A third army from the Chimay re- Maubeuge, fifty miles to the southeast like all others, are ready to give their gion is moving to attack the German of Lille, while a third is engaging the lives for their country." right between the Sambre and Meuse forts at Namur. These three bodies are rivers. It is supported by an Eng. estimated as having a total of about 250,000 men.

The main German army of the north, of about 300,000 men, has its front exsought to throw our left wing into disorder was followed step by step, and French Department of Ardennes, just shown by the Germans and give fuller south of Dinant, Belgium, to Thionville self attacked by our left wing. Our (Diedenhofen) in Lorraine, to the north army is acting in conjunction with the ing with, it is believed, the line of French defences from Reims to Lafere

The main German army of the south twenty-four hours. Along the entire is occupied with the French line of remainder of our battle front our lines defences between Verdun and Nancy.

peared to be seriously damaged.

mass of French artillery and troops in

endless lines poured out and the Ger-

FIGHTING HOT AT CHARLEROI. ARTILLERY DAMAGES CITY

loss.

By J. M. JEFFRIES.

Special correspondent of THE SUN and the London "Daily Mail." Special Cable Despatch to Tax Sus.

OSTEND, August 24. Officers who have arrived here by traversed the enemy's lines say that a Charleroi. They occupied Gembioux, battle is proceeding in the town itself, but were insufficiently supported and

forces have met in the streets. The now, so far as can be judged, in suffi-Germans entered the town on the clent force to meet the Germans. turning bridges in front of the railway battle at another part of the line. Their

Since yesterday morning the Ger- the infantry was obliged to withdraw mans have been attacking the city, from Charleroi before the German adwhich the French are holding. The vance in force. The French infantry is

Motigny side and came out by the British troops are participating in the role is of the highest importance.

German shells are failing in the The Germans bombarded Tumet town. Houses to the left of the Hotel without effect, but further north they

d'Europe, looking from the station, ap- ambushed the French in the woods,

FRANCE ADMITS GERMAN ADVANCE TOWARD NANCY

Admission of a German advance of a victory in that district. toward Nancy is made in an official There are reports that Nancy has Office to-day. The Germans occupy confirmation. Luneville and Amance, to the east of The official statement regarding the

port of a flight by the Fifteenth Army The main body of troops is under the Corps the War Office admits that there command of Gen. Pau. These forces thing is quiet. were instances of individual defection hold the front roughly speaking bea that corps, which is in the Nancy tween Badonviller and Luneville. Alost.

region. This statement is taken here Paris, August 24. as confirmation of the German report

Nancy, about ten miles from that city, and Dieuloard about the same distance "A general battle is now being fought in upper Alsace upon the Vosges Moun-

tatement issued by the French War been occupied, but these reports lack Belgians and Germans Put on Gov-

ernment Ships.

The railway is working again to



RUSSIAN ARMY'S SUCCESS

The Russians are advancing into Germany on a 150 mile front extending from Johannisburg to Soldau. They have captured and are occupying towns at from twenty to forty miles within the East Prussian border. Strong forces are pushing on toward Koenigsburg, which is about three hundred miles from Berlin, and expect to invest that stronghold in

According to official reports the Russians hold Lyck, Johannisburg, Cortelsburg, Neidenburg, Tilleburg and Soldau. It is also reported that they have captured Insterburg, but this is not officially confirmed. Both Virtually Only Pos-Tilsit and Insterburg are leading railway centres of this part of Germany, and the Russians say that they hold all these railroads and are operating them, thus controlling all the more important strategic points. The fighting during the entire week has been hard and has resulted in heavy losses on both sides.

wise the French front has not been modified.

"An army from the north is approachthrough Luxemburg and are now upon the right bank of the Semois.

"Another army from the direction of Sedan has crossed the Department of Ardennes and is engaging the German the first line of the Russian army now

here from Upper Alsace say that the the first to reenforce it when needed. Germans are making another offensive movement against the French at Muel- is now at the front with the General nausen in an effort to retake that city. Staff

ADMITS SOME FRENCH FLED.

War Office Denies Story of Whole Corps in Panic. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN

Paris, Aug. 24.-The War Ministry's communique issued at 5:35 o'clock this afternoon said:

PARIS, Aug. 24.-The Paris press is seeking to dissipate the pessimism shown since the Germans entered Brussels. M. Pichon, editor of the Petit Journal, who information, even if the news is unfavorable, as the country has shown perfect confidence in the Government.

Despite the efforts of other army corps participating, M. Pichon says, the failure of part of the Fifteenth Army Corps resulted in a withdrawal all along the whole line. One result of this affair, which occurred on August 21, was the occupation of Luneville by the Germans.

A rebuke has been addressed to Petit Parisien for the article

BRITISH IN FIGHTING.

War Office Announces They Took Part in Encounter at Mone.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN LONDON, Aug. 24.-The first official mans were driven back with serious word that the British expeditionary force on the Continent has been en-The French of all arms during the gaged was given out to-day by the news motor cars from Charlerot and who past week got considerably north of bureau of the War Office in the following brief statement:

"British forces were engaged all day

in a statement called forth by a re- tains and along the River Meurthe. Beigians and Germans have been embarked on Government ships. Every-

FAR DISTANT,

Continued from First Page

army corps which has been proceeding between the River Lessee and the River Meuse."

Meuse."

Meuse."

Meuse."

Meuse."

Meuse.

Meuse Basel, Aug. 24.—Report. received army almost as great will move behind

The correspondent adds that the Czar

FLEE FROM RUSSIANS.

German Population of Willenberg Rushing From City. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN

Paris, Aug. 25.-The French War Office issued the following: "The German population is evacuat-

"A morning newspaper announced ing Willenberg, ninety-one miles south- ritory that a division of the 15th Corps fled east of Koenigsberg, in East Prussia, least before the enemy, a flight which had a grave consequence for subsequent oper- from Poland, which already have pene-Despatches received here from Rot- ations. The fact presented in that form trated a considerable distance beyond

ALLIES, LONDON HEARS

Tremendous Pressure Brought to Bear-Germany Seeking Aid Too.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SES.

LONDON, Aug. 25.—The allies are bringing tremendous pressure to bear on Italy to join their cause, it was said on good authority here to-day. Furthermore, Italy will soon take just that step, it was asserted Advices from Italy in the past few days

have stated that Italy was mobilizing an the event of a victory for Germany and

Austria the vengeance of the two nations would fall upon her for deserting the Triple Alliance and adopting a neutral attitude. The London newspapers have often

pointed out the advantage Italy might to invade France the gap between Mauga'n by throwing her lot in with the beuge and Lille is practically the only possible road. To go to the west beyond allies. Additional territory was held out as alluring bait. GERMANY TRYING TOO.

Special Cable Despatch to The Stre

Rome, Aug. 25 .- The German Ambassador here has been daily in conference with high officials in an attempt to in-

and six destroyers is within sight of Ostendard ready for action in case the Germans occupy the port.

A squad of twenty Death's Head Bustern of the task, but short of abandoning the whole offensive through Beigium, an unthinkable thing, there could be no choice for the Germans.

A squad of twenty Death's Head Bustern of the task, but short of abandoning the whole offensive through Beigium, an unthinkable thing, there could be no choice for the Germans.



FRENCH CAN CHOOSE THE FIELD OF BATTLE

Germans Can Select Time, but Their Enemy Will Fix the Place.

ONLY ONE WAY TO FRANCE

sible Road.

From the Evening Sun of yesterday. To understand the next and second phase of the German operations in Belgium, there are certain geographical and military circumstances which must be

purpose was to seize Liege and then road to Paris the Germans have Namur and open the road to France by the Meuse Valley. Had it succeeded the main German advance need not have gone to Brusse's. The side trip to Brussels was imposed by two interdependent circumstances. The resistance of Liege gave France time to reenforce the Belgian garrison at Namur and prevent any

tion of the resistance at Liege enabled the field army of Belgium to come up on the right flank of the Germans. Under these circumstances the Ger-mans were compelled to go west, not south, to roll up the Belgian army and sweep it back into Antwerp and to open a road to France west of the Meuse, since Namur was on a war footing. As the Belgian field army continued to put up a gallant and effective resistance and Liege delayed the mass of German infantry there was a period when it seemed possible that the French and British forces might arrive in time to confront the Germans on the famous Lines of the Dyle east of Brussels and compel it to op

But fortunately for the Germans, at troops in considerable force were just south of the Belgian line at Gembloux when the Germans, by a wide sweep to upon Antwerp and thus compelled them to retire rapidly on that city. Thus efforts to provoke them. by last Thursday the Germans had accomplished the task which constituted the first phase of their operations to get at France and stood in force at Brussels with the large hotels and the soldiers in the barracks and railway stations. The gardener continued: while their cavalry was sweeping west and north toward Ostend and Ghent.

"Even the officers

Only One Route.

From Brussels to France three portant lines of rail and roadway lead south to the French border some fifty miles away. That to the west enters Antwerp-Paris line. The middle line crosses the French boundary north of Valenciennes. The eastern line joins the Liege-Paris railroad at Charleroi enters France at Maubeuge. Mau and Lille are perhaps fifty miles Valenciennes is almost equidistant from both. Maubeuge and Lille are forti-fied towns, each surrounded by a circle of detached forts. With Valenciennes, Conde, Le Quesnoy and Mons, the last have stated that Italy was mobilizing an army of more than half a million men and that large forces were near the Austrian frontier.

It was said that Italy believes that in the event of a victory for Germany and the event of a victory for Germany and the sevent of the sevent There are, nowever, in addition several detached forts between the two cities, occupying vantage points and to be reckoned with still. Finally, across two-thirds of the gap between Lille and Mnubeuge runs the Scheldt River, a sort of

oat in front of the Maubeuge-Lille line. For an army at Brussels and intending Lille would mean to extend an open flank to the Anglo-French forces from Namur to Lille, while the narrow stretch of land between Lille and the sea is flanked again by the first class fortress of Dunkirk. Such a detour is also far off the main railway lines. To go east of Maubeuge by the Meuse is equally difficult and un-

"British forces were engaged all day sunday and until after dark with the enemy in the neighborhood of Mons, Beigium. They held their ground."

This is the first information given of the whereabouts of the British troops since the announcement that the landing had been completed on August 18, built of the alliance obligations. So far the Ambassadors' efforts have failed, ing had been completed on August 18, bright of Certain Germans' Arrival.

BRITISH FLEET AT OSTEND?

Twelve Warships Said to Be Awattaning Germans' Arrival.

Paris, Aug. 24.—It is reported here that a British feet including two dreading had been completed or action in case the Germans at August 24.—The situation for the that a British feet including two dreading had been swept clear of detachments of the part of the part of the start of the part of the part of the delay inclear to the part of the task, but short of abandoning the correspondent to The Strategies and six destroyers is within sight of Ostendard of Germans.

But in official despatch received here from Anti-worp. The plains in front eight of the start of the mans a cocupy the port.

But in official despatch received here from Anti-worp have been swept clear of detachments with the newspapers here have been asked to urge full interest the standard process of Namur and by French the forces of Namur and by French of the design and French of Newspapers here have been asked to urge full interest the forces at Dinant and French forts at Dinant and French forts at Dinant and French of Newspapers here have been asked to urge full the forces at Dinant and French forts at Dinant and French forts at Dinant and French forts at Close in the forces at Dinant and French forts at Dinant and French forts at Close in the forces at Dinant and French forts at Dinant and French forts at Dinant and French the forties of Namur and by French forces at Dinant and French forts at Dinant and French forts at Dinant and French forts at Dinant and French the forties of Namur and by French forces at Dinant and Fre

A French Advantage.

who had approached Antwerp have been killed, wounded or taken prisoners.

Belgians have penetrated as far as Malines without finding any trace of the enemy, according to the despatch.

PARIS, Aug. 24.—A semi-official despatch received here from Berlin says Germany intends to retain Belgium in case of victory in the present war, and to establish a naval station at a Belgiand.

A French Advantage.

One more detail: Maubeuge is on the Sambre some fifty miles above Namur. The river here runs from southwest to northeast and an Anglo-French force lying behind the Sambre, its flanks protected by Namur and Maubeuge, would be squarely on the flank of the German advance. Its centre would be at Charlerol. As a preliminary to advancing against the Lille-Maubeuge barrier the Germans might well undertake to crush the force between Namur and Maubeuge, thus isolating Namur and killed two and wounded three of the invaders. The rest of the Germans field. The correspondent concludes:

"Frem 2 o'clock cannonading was distinctly heard. It is the beginning of the battle."

mentioned as the field of the great battle aiready in progress. Tamines is perhaps half way between Charleroi and Namur.

What is essential to remember, though, is the simple fact that fifty miles south of Brussels is the first line of French defences, that French resistance must begin either exactly at this point or on a field in advance of it selected by the General Staff, that there the Germans must expect to encounter French and British troops

to encounter French and British troops fully concentrated, with the advantage of having selected the field and of having behind and along their line permanent forts, fully equipped and ready for at-tack. On this front are the cities of tack. On this front are the cities of Mons, Tournai, Conde, Valenciennes and a score more familiar in history. The battles of Jemappes, Wattignies and Fleurus were fought along this barrier and the task for the Germans is that undertaken by the allies, who sought to get to Paris by this route in the first war of the French revolution in 1792-93 and failed by a narrow margin, the relief of Maubeuge by the French deciding the

It lies with the Germans to fix the time of the battle, but the French have had the opportunity to choose the field, and the route that the Germans must take is one which the French General Staff has had years to study and prepare to defend. As the Germans were in Brussels last Thurs-day and the fortified line is less than four military circumstances which must be days march to the south it is reasonable remembered.

When the German advance stepped over into Belgium on August 3 its obvious the first of the French barriers on the first of the French barriers on the chosen. If the Germans win here they have still the Reims-Laon-La Fere bar-rier between them and Paris; if they are checked the whole gigantic offensive comes

BRUSSELS PAYS PART OF GERMAN WAR LEVY

Receipts From Tramways Also Go Into the Kaiser's War Chest.

By FRANK HILLIER.

correspondent of THE SEN and the London "Daily Mail." Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN ROTTERDAM, Aug. 24.-I met to-day a Belgian gardener who had left Brussels this morning. He told me that the first instalment of the war levy of

200,000,000 francs (\$40,000,000) has The gardener, who had a German the north, broke in upon the Belgians at Louvain, threatened their line of retoward the inhabitants and made

"Even the officers seem to be extremely hungry. They buy immense quantities of provisions. Everything must be paid for in coin, by order of the German General, except large purchases for the commissariat, for which France at Lille, where it joins the Ghenthe names the prices, which are not and no newspapers are published. The police are all Belgians. The city has a normal aspect and the cafes are filled as usual. The Belgian flag is flying over the town hall, and there are no German colors anywhere. After 9 o'clock at night the city is deserted."

The German behavior at Brussels seems to have been very good. The only act of violence was the blowing up of the railway station because the company refused to obey orders. food supply is being maintained, as market gardeners and others have permits to pass in and out of the city. Aeroplanes are continually passing over the city and sending out signals. The tramways are running between Malines and Antwerp. The Germans are taking every eve-

ning the total receipts of the tramways for the day.

GERMANS IN CHARLEROL

Patrol Mistaken for British Finally Discovered and Routed.

PARIS. Aug. 24.-A Temps corre-condent now at Charlerol telegraphs that the Germans are advancing along a front

forts to Get Troops Across Meuse. By The Stn's and the London "Daily Maile" War Service. Special Cable Despatch to THE Ser

LONDON, August 24. The Daily Mail's Antwerp correspondent says that a Belgian has returned from a trip to Liege and reports that the Germans have constructed eight pontoon bridges across the Meuse

GERMANS STILL HELD

BACK BY LIEGE FORTS

Desperate Attempts to Remove

Obstacle Continue

Night and Day.

BUILD PONTOON BRIDGES

Fugitive Reports Success of Ef-

between Liege and the Dutch border. The despatches from Rotterdam say that sounds of heavy cannonading from the direction of the Liege forts reached Maastricht yesterday after several days of quiet.

The firing was continued for some hours and seemed to indicate that the Germans were making a desperate attempt to take the forts, thus removing the danger to the supply lines which has existed since they began their march westward across Belgium.

These forts have been a constant source of trouble to the Germans in their advance, refugees from Liege report, through their effective work in destroying pontoon bridges which the Germans had built over the Meuse.

RETENTION OF LIEGE URGED German Press Said to Have Begus

Campaign for Plan.

Special Cable Despatch to THE ST Panis, Aug. 24 .- A despatch from The Hague says the German press is beginning a campaign for the retention of Liege by Germany after the conclusion of peace

GERMANS WELL EQUIPPED. Army That Passed Through Brussels

Ready for Hard March. Special Cable Despatch to THE STATE LONDON, August 21.

The Daily Telegraph prints a despatch from its correspondent at Ostend containing the following account of conditions it Brussels as told by an Englishman was got out of the Belgian capital yesterday: "German troops are being rushed south

ward through Brussels as rapidly as pos The general estimate was that 200,000 had passed through during the forty-eight hours following the occupation of the city. The German troops are finely equipped and capable of making & long and hard day's march. Some of their officers whom I met in the cafes told me that their companies were making

from thirty to forty miles a day "The equipment of all the German forces is wonderful. Every detail is perfect. I noticed that of the thousands of carts which passed not one had been permit, also told me that when he left requisitioned, but all were built for military service and bore the Government mark. All their horses are equipped with an extra set of shoes, which hang from

the stirrups. "At Waterloo I saw a part of their artillery being hurried southward toward Mons. I counted 230 guns.

"The Germans made an interesting change in respect to the colors which had flown from the Town Hall and flagpoles. Previous to the occupation the Beigian flag was in the centre, with French tricolor on the right and the British flag on the left. When the Germans entered they removed the British and French flags, and in the centre they flew the arms of the city of Brussels, with the colors of Belgium and Ger-many on the right and left.

"The Bourse and general post office has been utilized for troops. None of the regular barracks has been utilized for the purpose, the Germans evidently that they had been mined by the Belgians
"In their dealings with the shopkeep ers the German privates are compelled to pay cash, but the officers are giving checks, which the shopkeepers are required to accept, although they chance of cashing the same ver

"There have been some lively in the city. At evening the German officers gather at the principal hotels where they drink champagne and dance with the pretty girls of the town. The private soldiers and the inhabitants at on quite good terms. They mingle freely eating, drinking and smoking together in the cafes and on the terraces. "No newspapers have been permitted to

publish since the German occupation ex cept one journal which printed a single issue with announcement of the death of the Pope and a few official proclama

FRENCH CAPTURE AEROPLANE Machine Will Be Placed Among War Trophies in Paris.

Paris, Aug. 24 .- Despatches from B fort announce that a German aeroplane been captured and will be add the trophies at the base of the Alsace monument at Belfort. The trophies at the monument now include twenty-two ther-

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